THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) The Integrated Counseling and Testing Centres and Ant-retroviral Treatment Centres in Maharashtra have identified 14,345 HIV positive children. The State has the largest number of HIV positive children in the country.

(c) Following steps are being taken to prevent and control HIV infection in children;

(i) Identification, counselling and prophylactic treatment to HIV positive pregnant women and new born babies;

(ii) Diagnosis of HIV positive children and provision of anti-retroviral drugs to those children eligible for treatment; and

(iii) Public awareness through various media regarding prevention of HIV transmission.

Increase in cancer cases

2085. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cancer cases are on the increase, but the treatment is beyond the reach of the common people, especially in the rural areas;

(b) whether Government is making concerted efforts for making the cancer treatment affordable and its availability even in primary health centres in the rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): (a) to (d) According to the population based cancer registries under the National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), there are about nine lakh new cancer cases occurring every year in the country. The trend of cancer cases occurrence in India is rising.

The Central Government is providing financial assistance for setting up Radiotherapy Units in Government Medical colleges/hospitals for providing treatment facilities under National Cancer Control Programme. In addition, the comprehensive cancer detection and management facilities are provided by 27 Regional Cancer Centres across the country. The treatment of cancer is either free or subsidized in the Government institutions. The Government has also set up the Health Minister's Cancer Patient Fund (CPF) to provide financial assistance to Below Poverty Line (BPL) cancer patients.

Increase in AIDS cases in slum areas of Delhi

†2086. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of people affected with Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is increasing every year in the slum areas of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for failure of Government programmes in this respect;

(c) the details of achievements of nationwide programmes to control AIDS in the country; and

(d) the immediate steps being taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) No information is available about increase in number of people affected by AIDS in slum areas of Delhi.

(c) and (d) The steps taken to prevent and control HIV/AIDS and major achievements of the National AIDS Control Programme Phase III since July 2007 are as follows:

1. Scaling up HIV testing to 5089 ICTCs wherein 0.01 crore persons were tested in 2008-09.

2. Scaling up HIV treatment facilities to 227 ART centres where in 2,80,954 patients are receiving free treatment.

3. Scaling up STI treatment through public and private facilities; 66.7 lakh STI episodes treated in 2008-09.

4. Support to 1092 blood banks including 113 Blood Component Separation units and 10 Model Blood Banks established. A total of 74 lakh blood units collected in 2008-09.

5. A total of 212.31 crore condoms distributed in 2008-09 for preventing transmission HIV.

6. IEC activities launched focusing on behaviour change. The Red Ribbon Express project completed on 1st December 2008 after travelling over 27,000 kms. Covering 180 districts/halt stations. The project covered 41,334 villages and reached out to 62 lakh people. It has been relauched again on 1st December 2009.

7. A total of 1247 Targeted Intervention have been launched in various States to cover different High Risk Groups.

Bill on HIV/AIDS

2087. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has been proposing to introduce HIV/AIDS bill from 2006;